

CHAPTER 10 - OBJECTIVES AND POLICY

Contents

11 MISSION STATEMENT

- 11.1 Total Mobility
- 11.2 Priorities

12 SCOPE OF OPERATION

- 12.1 General
 - 12.1.1 National Response Plan
 - 12.1.2 Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
 - 12.1.3 Response to Incidents Other Than Wildland Fires
 - 12.1.4 Mutual Aid Agreement
- 12.2 Responsibilities of the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center
 - 12.2.1 Responsibilities of the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center
 - 12.2.2 Responsibilities of Agencies within the Craig Interagency Dispatch Area of Influence
- 12.3 Responsibilities of the Rocky Mountain Agencies
- 12.4 Responsibilities of the RMCG Fire Duty Officer

13 MOBILIZATION/DEMOBILIZATION

- 13.1 Work Rest Guidelines
- 13.2 Incident Operations Driving
- 13.3 Initial Attack Definition
- 13.4 Resource Mobilization
- 13.5 National and Area Resources
- 13.6 Notification of Commitment of National & Area Resources
 - 13.6.1 Commit
- 13.7 Unable to Fill (UTF) Procedure
- 13.8 Standard Cubes, Weight, and Gear Policy
- 13.9 Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts
 - 13.9.1 Fire Behavior Services
- 13.10 Strike Teams: Engines

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11 MISSION STATEMENT

The principle mission of the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC) is to provide safe, cost effective, and timely response of resources for appropriate management response to wildland fires and other emergency management activities within the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center area. CRC's coordination effort will be in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Area Interagency Coordination Center (RMC) and those dispatch centers within the CRC neighborhood (Grand Junction, Rawlins, and Ft. Collins). The cooperating agencies involved with the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center include:

Bureau of Land Management (Little Snake Field Office, White River Field Office, and Kremmling Field Office)

US Forest Service (Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest)

National Park Service (Dinosaur National Monument)

US Fish and Wildlife Service (Arapaho NWR and Brown's Park NWR)

Moffat County

Rio Blanco County

Routt County

Jackson County

Grand County

Colorado State Forest Service

The Craig Interagency Mobilization Guide identifies policy and agreements that establish standard procedures that guide the operations of multi-agency/jurisdictional logistical support activities. This guide is an extension of Agency Manuals, Handbooks, Directives, and Instructional Memorandums relating to logistical support. This guide is intended to promote uniformity of logistical support communications, facilitate interagency dispatch coordination and ensure that the most timely and cost effective support services are provided. It is designed to accommodate amendments, and will be recognized as currently applicable until amended. This guide is a supplement to the National and Area Mobilization Guides.

The Agency Administrators are responsible for review and approval of Policy (Chapter 10), Administrative Procedures (Chapter 20), Organization (Chapter 30), and Cooperation (Chapter 40).

The Craig Interagency Dispatch Center is responsible for the CRC mobilization guide review and approval, development and implementation of Chapters 50 through 90.

11.1 Total Mobility

The positioning and utilization of resources to meet anticipated and existing incident, preparedness, severity, wildland and prescribed fire needs regardless of geographic location or agency affiliation.

11.2 Priorities

When competition exists for resources, priorities shall be established by the CRC Center Manager during local interagency Preparedness Levels I-II. At Preparedness Levels III and IV priorities between zones within the Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit (NWCFCMU) will be established by the AFMO and within zones the priorities will be established by the ZFMO. Priorities between USFS and NWCFCMU will be established through a cooperative effort with the duty officers. Priorities for the USFS will be established by the Routt FMO. The Local Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (LMAC) for the Dispatch Center establishes priorities at Preparedness Level V.

In setting priorities, the following criteria should be considered:

- A. Maintaining initial action capability.
- B. Protecting communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources, in the following order:
 - 1. Communities
 - 2. Community infrastructure (including: long term effects to economic sustainability and viability)
 - 3. Historically significant cultural resources
 - 4. Commercial business
 - 5. Principle residence (year-round homes)
 - 6. Non-principle residence (seasonal homes, cabins, etc.)
 - 7. Out-buildings (barns, unattached garages, utility buildings, etc.)
- C. Limiting costs without compromising safety.
- D. Meeting agency suppression objectives.

12 SCOPE OF OPERATION

12.1 General

12.1.1 National Response Plan Refer to NMG

12.1.2 Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance Refer to NMG

12.1.3 Response to Incidents Other Than Wildland Fires Refer to RMG

12.1.4 Mutual Aid Agreements Refer to RMG

Mutual Aid agreements have the primary purpose of providing Initial Response and short term logistical support between adjoining units and dispatch centers. Initial Response are incidents that are controlled by the Initial Response forces without need for major reinforcements within a reasonable time period. Craig Dispatch Center has the authority to utilize the resources of adjoining centers as stated in the RMG. Prior to the mobilization of Initial Response resources, it is agreed that:

-An official resource request will be processed through dispatch channels for Initial Response resources remaining on the incident beyond Initial Response.

-No Initial Response resource responding across geographic boundaries will be mobilized further than that adjoining center boundary.

Refer to the specific County Annual Operating Plan for a synopsis of the Mutual Aid Agreements pertaining to the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center and its cooperators.

12.2 Responsibilities of the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center Refer to RMG

12.2.1 Responsibilities of the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center

1. Coordinate the movement of fire resources throughout the Craig Dispatch Center's area of influence.
2. Provide Initial Response dispatching for the Little Snake Field Office, White River Field Office, Kremmling Field Office, Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest (Parks, Hahns Peak/Bears Ears, and Yampa Ranger Districts), Dinosaur National Monument, Brown's Park NWR, Arapaho NWR, and Moffat County.
3. Supply dispatch and coordination services to all CRC cooperating agencies, utilizing any and/or all employees, equipment, supplies, and facilities available through the Center.
4. Understand and meet the expectations of the Craig Interagency Coordinating Group.
5. Review Annual Operating Plans and ensures compliance by the Dispatch Center.
6. Ensure dispatch operations follow the SOP's outlined by each agency.
7. Develop and distribute the Craig Interagency Mobilization Guide.
8. Maintain the SOPs for Wildland Fire, Logistics, Air Operations, and Expanded Dispatch.
9. Gather, develop, and disseminate daily situation, status and weather information. Fulfill all regular reporting requirements to Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center.
10. Provide a central information source for prescribed fire, fire closures, etc.
11. Maintain the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center web site.
12. Develop and distribute the Annual Craig Interagency Dispatch Center Report.

12.2.2 Responsibilities of Agencies within the Craig Interagency Dispatch Area of Influence.

- A. Craig BLM Fire will provide the following:
 1. Housing for CRC at 455 Emerson Street in Craig, CO.

2. Space for the Interagency Type 2 Handcrew cache at the same address.
3. The Dispatch Center Manager, Lead Initial Attack Dispatcher, and Initial Attack Dispatcher,
4. The BLM Computer system, telefax, and copy machine.
5. Resources for cooperating agencies on prescribed and wildland fires.

B. Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest will provide the following:

1. Support for the Forest Radio System.
2. Assistant Center Manager
3. Co-funding for Career Seasonal Dispatcher
4. Additional dispatchers during periods of high fire activity.
5. Forest Service computers and printer.
6. Resources for cooperating agencies on prescribed and wildland fires.

D. Dinosaur National Monument will provide the following:

1. Co-funding for Career Seasonal Dispatcher
2. Early detection of fires using the Zenobia and Roundtop lookout towers.
3. Resources for cooperating agencies on prescribed and wildland fires.

E. Brown's Park National Wildlife Refuge will provide the following:

1. Initial response of fires within the North Zone of the Craig Dispatch area, when requested.
2. Station personnel at Brown's Park NWR will assist CRC in facilitating telephone and radio communications during initial response.
3. Resources for cooperating agencies on prescribed and wildland fires.

F. Colorado State Forest Service will provide the following:

1. Resources for cooperating agencies on prescribed and wildland fires.
2. Monetary support to Dispatch Center operations up to the agreed amount specified in the Colorado Interagency Dispatch Annual Operating Plan.

G. US Fish and Wildlife Service will provide the following:

Monetary support to the Dispatch Center operations up to the agreed amount specified in the Northwest Colorado Fire Management Annual Operating Plan.

12.3 Responsibilities of Rocky Mountain Agencies Refer to RMG

12.4 Responsibilities of the RMCG Fire Duty Officer Refer to RMG

13 MOBILIZATION/DEMOBILIZATION Refer to RMG

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center will provide logistical support to all Units located within the dispatch zone. CRC will coordinate movement of all resources within the Center's area of influence. The Dispatch Center Manager or acting has delegated authority from Federal and State Land Management Agencies as identified by signatories of the Craig Interagency Mobilization Guide. The delegated authority is outlined within this Guide and establishes policies and procedures for the mobilization of personnel, equipment, supplies, and aircraft for incident emergencies and pre-suppression in northwest Colorado, Rocky Mountain Area, and Nationally.

Frequency Management

Federal and State Land Management Agencies agree to the sharing of specific radio frequencies that are authorized/licensed for each agency. Shared frequencies are to provide efficient, cost effective radio/communication support in protecting life and property. The sharing of frequencies is under the authority of the NTIA Regulations Manual, Sections 7.3.1, 7.3.4, and 7.5.1 and the FCC Rules and Regulations, Part 90, Sections 90.405 and 90.407. Refer to the specific County Annual Operating Plan for the shared frequencies within the CRC zone.

Mobilization/Demobilization

The ROSS or resource order form will be used for all movement of resources and will serve as a legal payment document.

Safe and rapid mobilization/demobilization will be cost effective, commensurate with values at risk, and consistent with all agencies resource management objectives.

When CRC has depleted jurisdictional and mutual aid resources, requests for assistance will be placed with neighbors first and then with RMACC. The ROSS or Resource Order Form will be used for tracking and payment purposes.

Units/Agencies filling requests for resources are responsible for ensuring that those resources meet the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Qualification and Certification Handbook (NWCG, 310-1) and/or the minimum requirements as outlined in the Fireline Handbook.

Length of Assignment

All assignments will normally be 14 days (excluding travel). Refer to the NMG and NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook Sections 12.7-2 and 12.7-3 for detailed Length of Assignment and Work/Rest Guidelines.

13.1 Work Rest Guidelines Refer to RMG

Work Rest Guidelines for all local initial attack resources (including those that are here on a detail in excess of 14 days) will be 1 day off for every 14 days worked. Every effort will be made to provide the day off on a regularly scheduled day off. If resources have been working extended hours (12-14 hrs/day) for the 14 day period, it is the responsibility of the Zone FMOs to determine if more than one day is needed to manage fatigue. It is the Zone FMOs responsibility to monitor/manage days off and ensure that Initial Attack resources are adequate.

Resource returning from an off unit assignment of 14 days will have 2 days off. Anything less than 14 days will not warrant automatic days off, but left to the discretion of the Zone FMO, based on fatigue factors and total days worked, etc.

A day in pay status counts as a duty day regardless of assignment, number of hours worked, or where the resource slept.

14 day assignment = 14 duty days + travel

21 day assignment = 21 days total, includes travel

Personnel who have worked 1-6 days on unit are available for an off unit dispatch. Personnel with 7 or more days worked on unit will be required to have one day off prior to dispatch.

Refer to the NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook for further information.

13.2 Incident Operations Driving Refer to RMG

13.3 Initial Response Definition – Refer to Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit Fire Plan, Appendix F (NWCFMP Operational Procedures)

13.4 Resource Mobilization

All orders for resources will be initiated/generated by the unit or Zone FMO responsible for the incident through CRC. Orders shall be processed through established dispatch channels using the standard National Coordination System.

All resources mobilized beyond Initial Response will adhere to the NWCG Physical Fitness Standards.

13.5 National and Area Resources Refer to RMG

Dispatching of National and/or Area resources within and across the defined Rocky Mountain Area boundaries shall comply with the RMG

13.6 Notification of Commitment of National & Area Resources Refer to RMG

Notification of commitment of National and Area resources will be via electronic means within 15 minutes of commitment. CRC will notify RMACC and neighbors via a "commit" message.

In the case of electronic mail problems, a telephone call to the affected centers will suffice. Commit messages will be done when the following circumstances occur:

- When National or Area Resources are committed internally to an incident or are no longer available for dispatch.
- When available again.
- When location changes.

13.7 Unable to Fill (UTF) Procedures Refer to RMG

13.8 Standard Cubes, Weight and Gear Policy (excluding smokejumpers) Refer to RMG

All personnel will meet the following limitations when dispatched outside of the CRC zone.

- One frameless soft pack not to exceed 45 pounds
- Web gear or briefcase (not both) not to exceed 20 pounds
- Maximum allowable crew weight, including equipment is 5100 pounds.
- All personnel baggage weights must be displayed separately from individual weights on flight manifests.

13.9 Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts

Fire weather forecasts will be disseminated to all fire fighting personnel. The morning fire weather forecast will be discussed at the morning briefing and made a part of the Craig Daily Briefing on the web site (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/fire/crc/dailybrief.pdf>); if needed, field units will receive this information via radio. The afternoon fire weather forecast will be simulcast on all appropriate frequencies available to the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center.

Requests for spot weather forecasts for wildland fires will be made through CRC. Depending on location of the incident, CRC will contact either Grand Junction NWS or Denver NWS and request the spot forecast. When the spot forecast is received, CRC will disseminate the information to the requesting incident either by cell phone or radio.

Spot Weather Forecast requests for Prescribed Fire can be made directly to the weather service by the Burn Boss or their designee. The Dispatch Center will be notified of the request, assuring that information becomes part of the Incident Action card for historical record purposes.

Red Flag Warnings/Watches and updates to the fire weather forecast will be disseminated to all fire fighting personnel via radio or briefing. Red Flag Warnings will be faxed to all county cooperators upon receipt.

All weather forecasts and Red Flag Warnings and Watches are posted on the Weather Service's web site. It can be accessed through the Rocky Mountain web site. Go to www.fs.fed.us/r2/fire/rmacc.html then click on the Predictive Services Icon and select the desired product from the menu.

13.9.1 Fire Behavior Services Refer to RMG

13.10 Strike Teams/Engines Refer to RMG

Strike teams will not be ordered locally, orders for individual engines will be processed and the strike teams can be formed at the incident.

CRC heavy engines will be staffed with 3 persons upon dispatch to an incident.

Every effort will be made to staff CRC light engines with 3 persons. For dispatches to an off unit assignment light engines will be staffed with 3.